



Sid W. Richardson
1891-1959
Inducted 1969

Born in Athens, Texas, Sid Richardson attended college at Simmons College and Baylor University. He left school early, though, to begin his career in oil. He started out as a salesman for an oil well supply company, then worked as an oil scout and purchased leases. He became an independent oil producer in Fort Worth and experienced many highs and lows during the 20s. He operated in Ranger and Burkburnett and, in 1929, made his first discovery in the Permian Basin at the Keystone Field in Winkler County. From there, Richardson was involved in the development of the Slaughter Field and discovered the Halley Field in Winkler County in 1956. Later, he took on various natural gas and carbon black ventures in West Texas, moved his wildcatting activities into Louisiana, and acquired a carbon black plant in Odessa and a refinery in Texas City. At the same time, he became interested in ranching, radio, and politics. He also held many premier patent positions, one of which was instrumental in the development of underground storage facilities in salt formations. He placed most of his assets into the philanthropic foundation that bears his name.